



Atty. Docket No. 25063.0002

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10/21/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

Timothy P. COLEMAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/495,947

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: 2 February 2000

Examiner: Q. Li

For: ADVANCED ANTIGEN PRESENTATION PLATFORM

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a Reply to the Office Action (Paper No. 20) mailed 21 June 2002. With the accompanying request for a three-month extension of time and payment of the appropriate fees, the due date for this Reply is 21 December 2002. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

Kindly cancel claim 2 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter thereof.

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (twice amended) A composition comprising a plurality of recombinant nucleocapsid protein monomers, the primary sequences of which are derived from duck hepatitis B virus, wherein at least a first portion of said monomers includes at least one non-HBV hapten, and wherein said monomers may be assembled to form a particle antigenic with respect to said hapten.



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